

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of The Claims:

1. (Previously Presented). An antenna capable of electrifying and ionizing the atmosphere for modifying weather conditions to broadcast ions into the atmosphere so as to ionize the atmosphere, the antenna comprising:

a plurality of peripheral nodes;

a central node located within the plurality of peripheral nodes;

a plurality of peripheral spokes for connecting each of the peripheral nodes to adjacent peripheral nodes;

a plurality of radial spokes for connecting the peripheral nodes to the central node; and

a direct current power supply associated with said antenna that provides the plurality of peripheral and radial spokes with a selected power signal to induce said antenna to broadcast ions into the atmosphere so as to ionize the atmosphere and induce changes in weather conditions.

2. (Previously Presented). The antenna of claim 1 wherein said antenna is capable of electrifying and ionizing the atmosphere for modifying weather conditions; upon application of a selected power signal having a voltage value of between about zero volts and about positive 500 kilovolts and between about zero volts and about negative 500 kilovolts and having a current value of between about zero and about five-hundred milliamps

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented). The antenna of claim 1 wherein the central node comprises:

a central base portion; and

a central vertical member coupled to the base portion, said central vertical

member being electrically isolated from said central node.

5. (Previously Presented). The antenna of claim 4 wherein the central vertical member includes a mechanism for bringing the radial spokes connected to the central node from a first position to a second position.

6. (Original). The antenna of claim 4 wherein the height of the central vertical member decreases as the number of peripheral spokes increases.

7. (Previously Presented). The antenna of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of peripheral nodes comprises:

a peripheral base portion; and

a peripheral vertical member coupled to the peripheral base portion, said peripheral vertical member being electrically isolated from said peripheral nodes.

8. (Original). The antenna of claim 7 wherein each of the peripheral vertical members includes a mechanism for bringing the peripheral spokes and the radial spokes connected to the peripheral node from a first position to a second position.

9. (Original). The antenna of claim 1 wherein the radial spokes and the peripheral spokes are formed from a medium for conducting electricity.

10. (Original). The antenna of claim 1 further comprises

an isolator coupled to the central node and extending radially to electrically isolate the central node from each of the plurality of radial spokes; and

an isolator coupled to each of the peripheral nodes and extending radially to electrically isolate each of the peripheral nodes from each of the plurality of radial spokes and each of the plurality of peripheral spokes.

11. (Currently Amended). A system for electrifying and ionizing molecules in the atmosphere, the system comprising:

an antenna having a polygon base portion;

a direct current power source for providing electric power to the antenna; and

a control unit for controlling the power source based on weather data[and images], wherein the antenna radiates an electric field to broadcast ions into the atmosphere so as to ionize the atmosphere.

12. (Previously Presented). The system of claim 11 wherein the antenna includes:

a plurality of peripheral nodes;

a central node spaced apart from each of the plurality of peripheral nodes to form an inverted cone-like shape;

a plurality of peripheral spokes for connecting each of the peripheral nodes to the central node.

13. (Previously Presented). The system of claim 11 wherein the control unit controls the power supplied to the antenna from the power source in an amount sufficient to ionize molecules in the atmosphere and thereby to modify weather conditions.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended). A method for ionizing the atmosphere, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an antenna that includes[,] a plurality of peripheral nodes, a plurality of peripheral spokes, a plurality of radial spokes and a central node; and

applying direct current electric power to the peripheral spokes and radial spokes to ionize the atmosphere.

16. (Currently Amended). The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of controlling the electric power applied to the plurality of radial and peripheral spokes based on weather data[and images] to ionize the atmosphere.

17. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 15 wherein the step of applying electrical power comprises supplying the peripheral spokes and the radial spokes with a voltage that induces a discharge on the peripheral and radial spokes.

18. (Original). The method of claim 15 wherein the radial spokes are connected to the central node at one end and to the peripheral nodes at the other end through electrical isolators.

19. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 16 wherein the step of controlling the electrical power applied comprises supplying one of a positive or a negative voltage to ionize the atmosphere in order to modify the weather conditions.